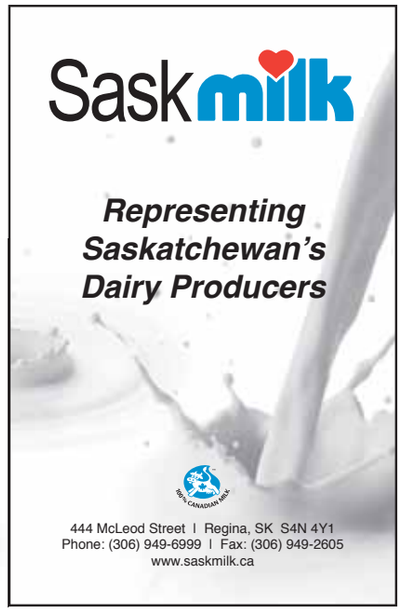
REGINA metro®

SO BAD IT'S ...

CRITICS ARE NOW ARGUING THE WIDELY PANNED SHOWGIRLS IS ACTUALLY SNEAKY SATIRE; USE METRO AR TO JUDGE FOR YOURSELF PAGE 10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PLEA FOR 'OUR GIRLS'

Women attend a demonstration on Monday calling on the Nigerian government to rescue kidnapped female students of a government secondary school in Lagos, Nigeria. A leader of a protest march for the 276 missing schoolgirls said Nigeria's first lady had ordered her and another protest leader arrested on Monday, and that she had expressed doubts that there was a kidnapping and accused them of belonging to the Islamic insurgent group blamed for the abductions. More coverage, page 6.

SUNDAY ALAMBA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Two dead after Regina-based plane crashes

Colombia. Survey aircraft with registry matching that of local company goes down in Andes mountains

One of two Canadians identified as the victims of a plane crash in northeastern Colombia was described on Monday as a smart guy with a passion for the outdoors.

The civil aviation authority in Colombia says the registry of a plane that crashed high in the Andes on Saturday matches one belonging to Regina-based Oracle Geoscience International, which conducts aerial surveys for mining companies. Two people aboard, both Canadians, were killed.

The authority has identified the dead as Peter Moore, a co-founder of the company, and Neville Ribeiro, who was registered as the plane's pilot. It wasn't immediately confirmed whether either man was from Saskatchewan.

Jack Richardson, who knew Moore for about 25 years, was shocked to hear about the crash.

"His geophysics, doing the flying, analyzing the anomalies — he knew that stuff very well. We talked about it a lot," Richardson said from Blind River, Ont. "Peter is a good guy. He is very focused on his work, very focused on enjoying life."

Richardson said Moore ran an outfitting service for years on the Great Lakes. Moore used to take charters out salmon fishing and worked hard at it, said Richardson. "He was an excellent fisherman."

According to Oracle Geoscience's website, Moore graduated from the Haileybury School of Mines in Haileybury, Ont. The site says Moore started his survey career as an airborne operator for Dighem Surveys in 1987 and that he worked in more than 15 countries over the last 20 years.

"Most of his work was (in) northern Canada. He did all the diamond mine exploration when that was hot," said Richardson, who last spoke with his friend at the end of January when Moore arrived in South America.

Rescue workers struggled over the weekend to reach the twin-engine Piper PA-31 Navajo because of poor visibility at the remote site.

Col. Carlos Silva, director of the Colombian air force command and control centre, said the plane was seen from the air upside-down on the ground.

It was not clear what led to the accident. THE CANADIAN PRESS WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tangerine
Forward Banking

New Regina Pats owners are game to get started

WHL. Group introduced to press at Brandt Centre

MARCO VIGLIOTTI
marco.vigliotti@metronews.ca

It's a new beginning for the historic Regina Pats franchise.

Members of the Western Hockey League team's new ownership regime, formally titled Queen City Sports and Entertainment Group, were introduced to the media at a press conference on Monday at the Brandt Centre.

"We take great pride and passion in taking over this franchise and leading it to the next level," Anthony Marquart, who as head of the ownership group will serve as governor of the Pats, told reporters.

The group's purchase of the franchise from Russ Parker, who had owned it since 1995, was approved by the WHL's board of governors last week. Other members of the ownership team are Jason Drummond, Gavin Semple, his son Shaun Semple and Todd Lumbard, a former Pats goaltender who will serve as president.

The members of the new Regina Pats ownership group, from left, Anthony Marquart, Todd Lumbard, Gavin Semple, Shaun Semple and Jason Drummond address the media at the Brandt Centre on Monday. MARCO VIGLIOTTI/METRO

"With the group we have assembled here ... I think our future is bright," Lumbard said.

"As a former player, I feel privileged to be in this position."

Marquart, president of Regina-based Royalty Developments, said his interest in purchasing the Pats — described by many as the world's oldest major-junior hockey franchise — was sparked by witnessing the city's enthusiasm for the team.

"We're proud, we're excited and I think that the group ... is ideally positioned to do great things for this team and for this community," he added.

Marquart confirmed that he plans to retain Chad Lang, general manager and senior vice-president of hockey operations, and most of the team's current personnel.

Mayor Michael Fougere called the new owners a great fit for the Queen City.

The purchase price of the franchise has not been made public per WHL policy.

More online

For more news visit metronews.ca

Watchdog has doubts about tax increase

A watchdog group is questioning city council's decision to hike Regina's property tax by nearly six per cent after learning the municipality posted a $2.4-million operating surplus last year.

Colin Craig, Prairie region director for the Canadian Taxpayers Federation, said on Monday that while the surplus might not be too alarming, it raises serious doubts about the city's justification that a sizable property-tax increase is necessary to keep pace with expenses.

"In the grand scheme of things, the city's surplus isn't unusual," Craig told Metro from Winnipeg.

"But if it persists, it's definitely an indication that the administration doesn't need to raise taxes as much as they have been raising taxes."

The surplus is largely a result of revenue exceeding budget projections by $13.8 million, according to the city's annual financial report that will go before council's finance and administration committee on Tuesday.

Revenue from municipal fees and services came in $7.4 million over budget, according to the report, while the city spent $3.8 million less than expected in debt servicing fees.

Mayor Michael Fougere declined to comment, saying he hadn't read the report.

In February, council backed a motion to direct $1 million of the city's 2013 surplus toward this year's budget. That move alone cut Regina's initially proposed seven per cent property-tax increase by about 0.5 per cent.

Craig, however, said the property-tax hike of 5.9 per cent that was eventually agreed upon far exceeds income growth seen by Regina ratepayers.

"They didn't take into account what taxpayers could afford before deciding on that tax increase," he charged.

MARCO VIGLIOTTI/METRO

Infrastructure

Feds pony up for highway bypass

The federal government is putting up $200 million for a major highway bypass to divert traffic around Regina.

Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz says the money for the Regina bypass is to come through the P3 Canada Fund, which means the work will be done under a public-private partnership.

"The biggest thing is it takes a 15-year project down into the four- and five-year reality of coming to fruition," Ritz said after a news conference on Monday in White City.

The $1.2-billion project is to begin on Highway 11, northwest of Regina, and run south to the Trans-Canada Highway. It will then wrap around south of the city, about five kilometres south of the Trans-Canada, and connect back with the highway on Regina's east side.

Gerry Ritz
THE CANADIAN PRESS

The project includes three overpasses at communities east of Regina, including White City where several fatal crashes have occurred.

The area can be hazardous during morning rush hour when commuters cross the eastbound lanes of the Trans-Canada to turn left and west toward Regina.

The province has yet to work out land sales with property owners along the route, but Saskatchewan Highways Minister Don McMorris said work on the bypass is expected to begin in the summer of 2015.

"We hope that we can come to an agreement with all land owners," McMorris said.

"The very, very last option is expropriation."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Scan the photo below with your Metro News app to see a photo gallery of the Animal Hall of Fame inductees and their heroic tales.

N.L. town puts dead whale on eBay

Free shipping? Scheme shot down by site, now mayor hopes museum will show interest

A Newfoundland town's efforts to have a dead sperm whale removed from its coastline have hit a snag.

But the mayor of the community remains hopeful that someone will step forward to take the carcass of the 12-metre mammal off his hands.

Peter Fenwick, the mayor of Cape St. George on Newfoundland's west coast, put the whale up for sale on eBay. But the website took the auction down Monday because it violates its policies on animals and wildlife products, Fenwick said.

"Our major objective was to get rid of the whale, and we feel that there may be enough (people) out there who know about it, who may be interested in it," said Fenwick in an interview.

"If they want a free whale, we'll be glad to give it to them, provided they can make suitable arrangements to remove it from the beach and put it in a place where it's not a major annoyance to the community."

He said he received a call from the federal Environment Department earlier in the day saying the sale of the whale could violate environmental regulations.

"So then we thought, 'Maybe there's a museum somewhere that would like to purchase it, and if there is, let's advertise it on eBay and see if anybody is interested."

Two other Newfoundland communities recently reached a deal with the Royal Ontario Museum to retrieve the carcasses of blue whales that have been rotting along their shores.

Fenwick said disposing the carcass is the responsibility of the town and both the provincial and federal governments haven't offered any help.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A sperm whale carcass sits on shore in Cape St. George, N.L., in this recent photo. The large carcass recently washed ashore, posing a problem other Newfoundland communities have had to deal with this season: how to dispose of one. CONTRIBUTED

Calgary. Man accused in animal killings bought pets on Kijiji: Investigator

Police say the man accused of starving and beating a cat and dog found dead in a Calgary alley in January acquired the animals from a seller on Kijiji.

It was the latest animal abuse case involving the popular online classifieds site and reignited caution from law-enforcement officials about offering unwanted pets online at no charge.

"If you add a value to the animal there's more of a likelihood that the person that's getting the animal is going to value the animal," said Brad Nichols, head of cruelty investigations with the Calgary Humane Society.

Early Monday, the society announced 19-year-old Nicolino Ivano Camardi has been charged with two counts of wilfully causing unnecessary pain, suffering or injury to an animal.

On Jan. 9, the Calgary Humane Society was notified that a Siberian husky had been found dead in an alley, suffering from severe starvation.

A second animal, a domestic short-haired cat, was found just metres away on Jan. 16.

Both animals had tape covering their mouths.

Medical examinations determined the dog died of starvation while the cat died of asphyxia due to ligature strangulation following multiple traumatic injuries to its head, tail and hind limbs.

Humane Society officials announced the charges Monday morning.

It's alleged Camardi bought the animals online two to three months before their bodies were discovered.

The accused was scheduled to appear in court Monday morning.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO IN CALGARY

Weight loss. Doctor set to appeal discipline

A key player in the country's weight-loss industry is set to appeal discipline meted out to him by the body that regulates the medical profession in Ontario for violating advertising rules.

Dr. Stanley Bernstein wants the Health Professions Appeal and Review Board to overturn the reprimand he was given last year.

The complaint to the College of Physicians and Surgeons originated with lawyer Peter Rosenthal after a doctor pointed out to him that Bernstein was in breach of the rules with his advertising of his weight-loss clinics.

The college's disciplinary committee, which noted Bernstein had been the subject of many similar complaints, only imposed a "caution."

Bernstein is cross reviewing the adverse finding, arguing that even a caution was unwarranted. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Brave animals become Hall of Famers

Edmonton police officer Const. Matthew Williamson looks at a photo of him and his service dog Quanto during the 46th annual Purina Animal Hall of Fame ceremony in Toronto on Monday. Quanto died from stab wounds during a altercation with a suspect in the line of duty. The five-year-old German shepherd was among the four dogs and one cat being honoured. The event recognizes extreme acts of courage, bravery and devotion by Canadian pets and service animals. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Post-traumatic stress

Compassion demanded for soldier with PTSD

Opposition parties accused the Harper government of breaking its word, demanding the military show compassion for a soldier who attempted suicide last year and has been put back on the fast-track for dismissal.

Master Cpl. Kristian Wolowidnyk made headlines last November when it was revealed he tried to take his own life after the army began the process of giving him a medical discharge because of his post-traumatic stress disorder.

The military backed down when his case became public, but last week reversed itself and said he doesn't qualify to remain in the military.

"That's ridiculous," said NDP MP Christine Moore, a nurse who served in the military.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Military. Canadian officer testifies harassment led to his desertion in Florida

An officer in the Royal Canadian Navy who pleaded guilty to desertion testified Monday that he left his post on a ship after he was subjected to deplorable behaviour that included a colleague urinating on his cabin floor.

Lt. Derek De Jong, 43, told a court martial that while he was wrong to leave his post aboard HMCS Preserver, he was harassed and his commanding officer failed to properly investigate his concerns.

De Jong left the supply vessel on Sept. 17, 2012, while it was docked in Key West, Fla., and he returned to Halifax, where he turned himself in to military police.

He said there were a series of incidents leading up to his desertion that began in late August that year.

On Aug. 20, De Jong had a conflict with another crew member over the handling of alleged misbehaviour by a female subordinate, he told his sentencing hearing.

The next day, a female officer came into his cabin while he was still asleep, pulled down her pants, squatted and urinated on the floor, he said. De Jong said he reported the incident to the supply officer and the ship's commanding officer but no formal inquiry resulted.

He said a senior officer later joked, "Some men have to pay for a service like that," and a sign was briefly attached to his cabin door that said, "Women's head," a reference to a nautical term for a woman's bathroom.

"I don't think people should have to tolerate this kind of behaviour," De Jong said Monday.

He said after the incident he felt he was working in a "toxic" environment, and he heard secondhand that he was no longer welcome in the wardroom among officers and other colleagues.

The maximum sentence for desertion under the National Defence Act is life in prison. THE CANADIAN PRESS

A Martian space habitat is shown in this artist's rendering. The number of Canadians in the running for a planned one-way trip to the red planet has been reduced to 54 as Mars One pared down its list of candidates on Monday.

BRYAN VERSTEEG/SPACEHABS.COM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

54 Canadians remain on Mars standby list

Fantastic voyage. Ambitious Mars One project pares down the number of potential applicants for one-way mission to red planet

The number of Canadians in the running for a planned one-way trip to Mars has been reduced to 54 as Mars One pared down its list of potential worldwide candidates on Monday.

The Dutch-based non-profit organization said 705 people still remain in contention and will be subject to an interview by their selection committee.

The Mars One project, an ambitious plan to establish a permanent human settlement on the planet beginning in 2025, is the brainchild of Dutch entrepreneur Bas Landorp.

The 54 Canadians remaining are divided equally between male and female candidates.

Christy Foley, a 33-year-old Alberta government employee, is among the candidates who'll get an interview.

Foley said Monday she's not having any second thoughts about the one-way trip and is still very excited, adding her family doctor appeared surprised when she explained the reason for a complete medical.

"He said he never had this type of request before, so I guess Edmonton doesn't produce many astronaut wannabes," Foley said.

She and her husband had both applied when the call went out, but he was not chosen.

The majority of the remaining 54 Canadian hopefuls are from the Toronto region, but there's also a large contingent from British Columbia. Alberta and Quebec are next on the list, but other provinces also boast candidates. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Seeing red — they hope

Initially, Mars One had an applicant pool of more than 200,000 from 100 countries, including 8,243 Canadians.

- Last December, the organization reduced that to 1,058 candidates, including 75 Canadians.
- One-third of those were eliminated, leaving the current crop of 705.

Up-to-date scores

Canada TOP 5

1. **178 points** *Saudah-Toronto*
2. **155 points** *Niramay-Toronto*
3. **141 points** *Phally-London*
4. **131 points** *Ritik-Vancouver*
5. **129 points** *Salvatore-Toronto*

metro AR

See this symbol? You can scan the photo above with your Metro News app to play the game. The top 5 winners in Metro will be contacted by May 16th and will win a Canadian Olympic Committee blanket. Subject to terms and conditions outlined in game. QC not eligible.

Redford returns to legislature

Former Alberta premier Alison Redford DEAN BENNETT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Former Alberta premier Alison Redford has returned to the legislature for the first time since she quit more than a month ago.

Redford is now a government backbencher representing the riding of Calgary-Elbow.

She has not been in the house since she stepped down March 23, but says she has been working in her constituency.

She did not answer questions on stories that have made headlines since her resignation, including a plan to have taxpayers build her a lavish penthouse suite on top of a government building.

Redford says those issues have been addressed by others in government and she has nothing to add.

She says her time away included a much-needed family vacation in Palm Springs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Villagers still digging as they wait for help

Afghanistan. Search continues for hundreds of victims of a landslide in Abi Barik village

Three days after the earth swept through his village, burying entire houses and hundreds of people, Hashmat Khan is still digging in search of his family.

Standing in a hole he'd dug out that reached over his head, Khan said six members of his family were buried in the horrific landslide that swept over the village of Abi Barik in Badakhshan province.

"We have rescued two injured and taken out two dead bodies, and now we're trying to find two more," he said.

One of the school teachers, Abdul Fatah Zafari, said the villagers have surveyed all the families and believe that around 50 students between ages of six to 15 died in the landslide.

The school building survived. But with what's left of Abi Barik under threat of further landslides and flooding, the surviving children haven't been able to attend school.

The landslide was likely triggered by heavy rains that have fallen across northern Afghanistan in recent weeks. It broke off a massive chunk of earth, burying hundreds of homes. Officials have said it will be impossible to bring up all the bodies, but many villagers have continued digging on their own.

Azizullah, who goes by one name as do many Afghans, said he was working on a construction site when he heard about the landslide and hurried home. Eventually he was able to find his wife and children alive, but his father and one brother are still missing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Survivors receive food donations on Monday near the site of Friday's landslide that buried Abi Barik village in Afghanistan MASSOUD HOSSAINI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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More killed as tensions escalate in east Ukraine

Ukraine sent an elite national guard unit to its southern port of Odesa, desperate to halt a spread of the fighting between government troops and a pro-Russia militia in the east that killed combatants on both sides Monday.

The government in Kyiv intensified its attempts to bring both regions back under its control, but seemed particularly alarmed by the bloodshed in Odesa. It had been largely peaceful until Friday, when clashes killed 46 people, many of them in a government building that was set on fire.

The loss of Odesa would be catastrophic for the interim government in Kyiv, leaving the country cut off from the Black Sea. Ukraine already lost a significant part of its coastline in March, when its Crimean Peninsula was annexed by Russia.

In eastern Ukraine, gunfire and multiple explosions rang out in and around Slovyansk, a city of 125,000, which has become the focus of the armed insurgency against the government in Kyiv.

The Russian Foreign Ministry put the blame squarely on Kyiv, which "stubbornly continues to wage war against the people of its own country."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

People mourn Yulia Izotova in Kramatorsk, Ukraine, Monday. Witnesses say the 21-year old was killed by shots from a Ukrainian military column. A. ZEMLIANICHENKO/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Idaho. Judge to decide on same-sex marriage ban

A federal magistrate says she will decide soon if Idaho's ban on same-sex marriage violates the equal protection guarantees of the U.S. Constitution.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Candy W. Dale told attorneys for four couples Monday that the emotional case raised lots of questions, and that she would get a ruling out in the "relatively near future."

The four couples, all women, say Idaho discriminates by subjecting them to different tax rules and denying them rights given heterosexual families.

Their attorney, Deborah Ferguson of Boise, said the purpose of Idaho's 2006 constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage is to subject same-sex couples to stigma and shame.

The case comes down to a matter of states' choice and states' authority, said Thomas Perry, the attorney for Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter, a defendant in the case. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Boko Haram leader threatens to sell kidnapped girls in Nigeria

National outrage.
Protesters criticize military, President Goodluck Jonathan for inaction

The leader of an extremist Islamic group in Nigeria is threatening to sell the nearly 300 teenage schoolgirls abducted from a school in the remote northeast three weeks ago, in a new videotape received Monday.

Abubakar Shekau for the first time also claimed responsibility for the April 15 mass abduction, warning that his group plans to attack more schools and abduct more girls.

"I abducted your girls," said the leader of Boko Haram, which means "Western education is sinful."

He described the girls as "slaves" and said, "By Allah, I will sell them in the marketplace." The hour-long video starts with fighters lifting automatic rifles and shooting in the air as they chant "Allahu akbar!" or "God is great."

It was unclear if the video was made before or after reports emerged last week that some of the girls have been forced to marry their abductors — who paid a nominal bride price of $12 — and that others have been carried into neighbouring Cameroon and Chad. Those reports could not be verified.

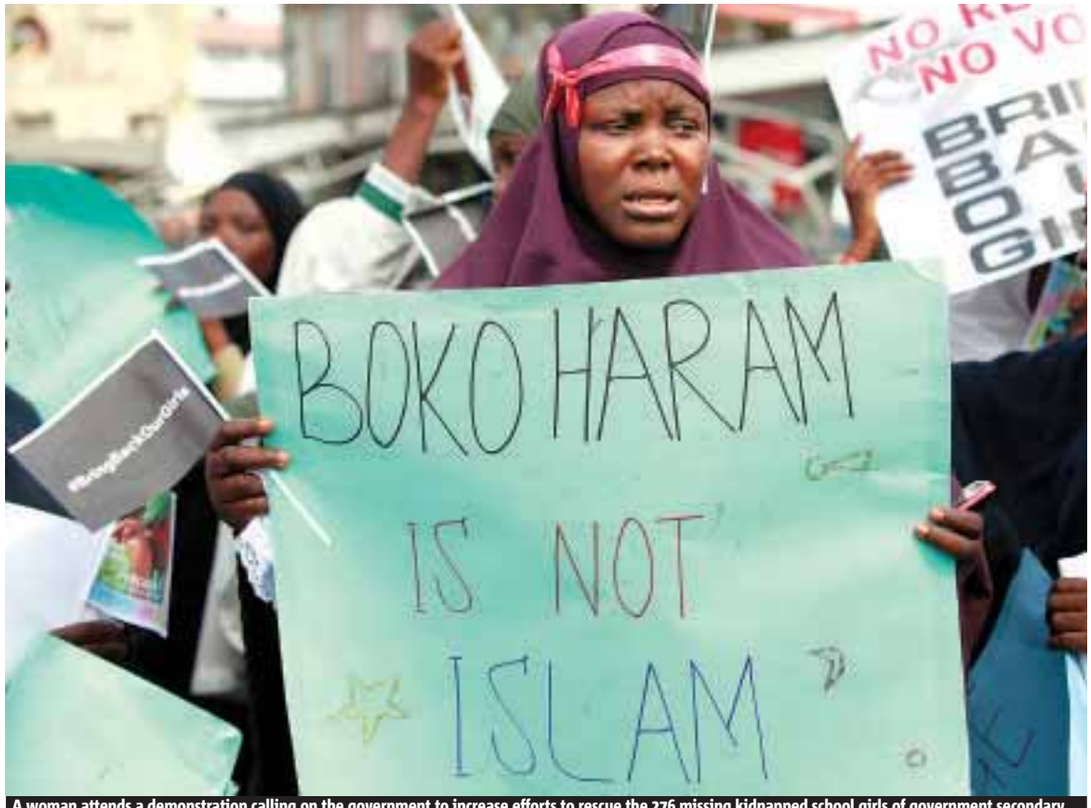
In the video, Shekau also said the students "will remain slaves with us." That appears a reference to the ancient jihadi custom of enslaving women captured in a holy war, who then can be used for sex.

"They are slaves and I will sell them because I have the market to sell them," he said, speaking in the Hausa language of northern Nigeria.

The video was reviewed by The Associated Press, and both the face and the voice of the leader of Boko Haram were recognizable.

Shekau brushed off warnings that the abductions could be an international crime, saying in English, as if to reach his accusers in the international community: "What do you know about human rights? You're just claiming human rights (abuses), but you don't know what it is."

The mass abduction and the military's failure to rescue the girls and young women have ignited national outrage with demonstrations in major cities. Protesters accused President Goodluck Jonathan of insensitivity to the girls' plight. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A woman attends a demonstration calling on the government to increase efforts to rescue the 276 missing kidnapped school girls of government secondary school Chibok, in Lagos, Nigeria, Monday. SUNDAY ALAMBA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WHO declares spread of polio a public health emergency

In this file photo from April of last year, a Somali child receives a polio vaccine at the Medina Maternal Child Health Center in Mogadishu, Somalia. BEN CURTIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

For the first time ever, the World Health Organization on Monday declared the spread of polio an international public health emergency that could grow in the next few months and unravel the nearly three-decade effort to eradicate the crippling disease.

The agency described current polio outbreaks across at least 10 countries in Asia, Africa and the Middle East as an "extraordinary event" that required a co-ordinated international response. It identified Pakistan, Syria and Cameroon as having allowed the virus to spread beyond their borders, and recommended that those three governments require citizens to obtain a certificate proving they have been vaccinated for polio before travelling abroad.

"Until it is eradicated, polio will continue to spread internationally, find and paralyze susceptible kids," Dr. Bruce Aylward, who leads WHO's polio efforts, said during a press briefing. Critics, however, questioned whether Monday's announcement would make much of a difference, given the limits faced by governments confronting not only polio but armed insurrection and widespread poverty.

"What happens when you continue whipping a horse to go ever faster, no matter how rapidly he is already running?" said Dr. Donald A. Henderson, who led the WHO's initiative to get rid of smallpox, the only human disease ever to have been eradicated. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Greece's Aegean Sea.
Smuggling boats capsize, killing migrants

At least 22 people — including families trapped in a flooded cabin — drowned when a yacht and a dinghy crammed with migrants trying to slip into Greece capsized Monday in the eastern Aegean Sea, authorities said.

Rescue teams led a search for up to seven more people missing, in what was one of the deadliest migrant boat accidents in Greek waters in recent years and the third fatal one this year. Many on board were from war-torn or unstable countries in the Middle East and Africa. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

East Congo

Soldiers sentenced for mass rapes

A court has convicted and sentenced 25 soldiers accused of carrying out mass rapes in eastern Congo.

In rare convictions handed down Monday, a judge sentenced two soldiers to life in prison, three to 20 years in jail and 20 to 10 years.

Thirteen of those charged were acquitted, with the court citing lack of evidence.

Authorities say at least 135 women and girls were raped in and around the town of Minova in eastern Congo in November 2012. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Neighbour tells trial he believes Pistorius shot girlfriend in error

Two-week recess.
Defence tries to regain momentum after prosecutors appear to poke holes in double-amputee's story

Oscar Pistorius cradles his head in his hands in court Monday at the resumption of his murder trial, following a two week break, in Pretoria, South Africa. THOBILE MATHONSI, POOL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Using witness accounts of a panicked nighttime phone call from Oscar Pistorius begging for help and his desperate pleas for Reeva Steenkamp to stay alive, the defence at his murder trial tried to reinforce its case Monday that the double-amputee Olympian fatally shot his girlfriend in a tragic error of judgment.

Johan Stander and his daughter Carice Viljoen, neighbours and friends of Pistorius, testified that they were at the runner's villa soon after the shooting on Feb. 14, 2013 and that Pistorius was praying, trying to help Steenkamp breathe and urging her to live. The world-famous disabled runner had shot four times through a toilet cubicle door minutes earlier, hitting Steenkamp in the hip, arm and head.

Stander testified that Pistorius phoned him at around 3:19 a.m. — about two minutes after the shooting. Pistorius told him he had thought Steenkamp was an intruder and shot her, Stander testified, and Stander and his daughter went to Pistorius' house after the runner pleaded for him to come.

"I saw the truth there that morning" Stander testified, saying he believed the shooting was accidental because of Pistorius' desperation when they found him carrying a bloodied Steenkamp downstairs. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Prosecutors' version

Prosecutors maintain Oscar Pistorius, 27, is lying about the perceived trespasser, and his story is designed to cover up that he killed his girlfriend in the midst of a heated argument.

- The prosecution has focussed on events before the killing — and not Pistorius' demeanour afterward — to try and show that his version is a fabrication.

Circus accident. Investigators focus on broken clamp

A carabiner is the only piece of equipment investigators have found that failed in a circus accident in which eight aerial acrobats plummeted to the ground, a public safety official said Monday.

Providence Public Safety Commissioner Steven Pare stopped short of saying the broken carabiner was the cause of Sunday's accident at the Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey circus. He said federal workplace safety investigators were trying to determine why it snapped.

The four- to five-inch steel clamp was one of several pieces at the top of a chandelier-like apparatus that suspended the performers in the air, fire officials said. The clip was found in three pieces on the ground with its spine snapped.

Two of the acrobats were in critical condition Monday. Family members say their injuries included a pierced liver and neck and back fractures.

Performers hang during a stunt at the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus May 2. COURTESY FRANK CAPRIO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stephen Payne, a spokesman for Feld Entertainment, the parent company of Ringling Bros., said none of the injuries appear to be life-threatening.

The circus said the women are from the United States, Brazil, Bulgaria and Ukraine. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Medical marijuana

Tweed Marijuana ships out drugs to Canadian clients

Tweed Marijuana, Canada's first publicly traded medical marijuana company, says it has shipped its first orders of the drug to clients.

Tweed started trading on the Toronto Venture Exchange last month and has a market capitalization of more than $113 million.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Controversial ingredient

BVO to go from all Coca-Cola drinks

Coca-Cola says it will drop a controversial ingredient from all its drinks that contain it, not just Powerade.

The change will apply to its drinks globally, meaning Canada and Latin America are phasing out the ingredient as well.

A spokesman for Coca-Cola noted that the ingredient is not used in many countries. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Luxury brands flock to Canada

A man walks past the Jimmy Choo shop in London, U.K. Two renowned luxury brands — Jimmy Choo and Versace — are launching their first stand-alone boutiques in Canada later this year. The shops are slated to open in Toronto. They join several other high-profile retailers and brands that have opened bricks-and-mortar locations in Canada over the past several years, including Microsoft, Ann Taylor, Loft, J. Crew and Target. Nordstrom will be following suit this fall with the opening of its first store in Calgary. OLI SCARFF/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Google hits play on music streaming service for Canadians

Music to our ears.
Google Play Music fills the void for Canucks still waiting for Spotify and Pandora to come here

Google is stepping into the streaming music game in Canada with the launch of Google Play Music, the latest in a growing number of services that could change how Canadians listen to their favourite songs.

The company announced Monday that its all-access subscription service would be the centrepiece for a broader digital music service that offers music on mobile phones, tablets and personal computers.

Aside from streaming, users can also buy tracks for their personal collections, quite similar to Apple's iTunes store.

Google's streaming service is one of the most extensive offerings available to Canadians yet, and a highlight of the technology giant's launch into selling music in Canada.

Google Play Music users will have streaming access to 25 million songs, which the company says is several million more tracks than its U.S. users can access. The cost is $9.99 per month, after an introductory rate.

The rollout will be available for phones and tablets on both the Android operating system and Apple's iOS devices.

The Canadian version will cater to local tastes, which includes a selection of Francophone music and a playlist that showcases this year's Juno Award winners.

The presence of legal on-demand streaming music has been limited in Canada.

Last year, free streaming music service Songza opened an office in Toronto with the goal of getting a head start against its competitors like Spotify and Pandora, two popular international streaming services that aren't yet available in Canada. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

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Target CEO resigns in wake of data breach

Target's CEO has become the first boss of a major corporation to lose his job over a breach of customer data, showing how responsibility for computer security now reaches right to the top.

Gregg Steinhafel, who was also president and chairman, stepped down nearly five months after Target disclosed a huge pre-Christmas breach in which hackers stole millions of customers' credit- and debit-card records. The theft badly damaged the store chain's reputation and profits.

Steinhafel, a 35-year veteran of the company and chief executive since 2008, also resigned from the board of directors, Target announced Monday.

The departure of Steinhafel, 59, suggests the company wants a clean slate as it wrestles with the fallout. But the resignation leaves a leadership hole at a time when the 1,800-store chain is facing many other challenges.

The company, known for its trendy but affordable housewares and fashions, is struggling to maintain its cachet while competing with Walmart and Amazon.com. Target is also grappling with a disappointing expansion into Canada, its first foray outside the U.S.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Death of the postman.
Canada Post Corp. reports $29M loss for 2013

Canada Post Corp. lost $29 million last year, compared with a loss of $83 million in 2012, helped by the sale of its plant in downtown Vancouver.

Revenue for the Crown corporation, which includes the Canada Post mail and parcel delivery segment, along with majority-owned subsidiaries Purolator, SCI Group and Innovapost, totalled $7.56 billion in sales compared with a loss of $83 million on $7.52 billion in sales in 2012.

On an operating basis, Canada Post lost $193 million for the year compared with an operating loss of $106 million a year earlier.

Canada Post is in the midst of a massive reorganization including a move to end door-to-door delivery of the mail.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Only in the U.S.

#dangerousidea: Just tweet to make Amazon purchase

Amazon wants to make shopping online as easy as a tweet.

The online retailer is introducing a service in the U.S. that lets Twitter users there add Amazon.com products to their carts without leaving the social media site.

The service comes as Amazon seeks to make social media a bigger source for sales. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DRAKE DOESN'T ALWAYS KNOW BEST

SHE SAYS

Jessica Napier
metronews.ca

It's incredibly easy for us to make new digital connections — you can acquire hundreds of online friends in minutes just by pressing a handful of buttons — but how much energy are you investing in working on your real-life social networks?

Friendships play a crucial role in our lives. Science has shown time and time again that maintaining close ties with our fellow human beings provides us with a wide variety of mental, emotional and physical benefits. One study even suggests that being lonely or having weak social bonds is a health risk comparable to smoking up to 15 cigarettes a day or being an alcoholic.

If platonic pals are beneficial for the mind, body and soul, reason would suggest that we try to accumulate as many as possible. However, evolutionary anthropologist Robin Dunbar argues that the cognitive limitations of our brains also impose limits on our ability to sustain stable social connections. You might have amassed hundreds of Facebook buddies, but humans can actually only comfortably maintain about an average of 150 genuine relationships. That number might be even lower for us technology obsessed, socially stunted Millennials.

So while TV sitcoms would have us believe we'll spend our whole lives hanging out with the same handful of people at the same bar year after year after year, real life doesn't work like that. If our brains can only handle a finite number of contacts, it's practical to audit your social circle every once in a while, online and in real life, to evaluate how and with whom you're spending your time.

As we get older, our interests and values inevitably change and we naturally begin to drift away from certain people. Toronto rapper Drake might have a No New Friends policy, but we do ourselves and the people around us a disservice by holding onto old friendships at the expense of making new ones.

I'm not suggesting that you should start eliminating old friends from your life like you're picking off contestants on a reality show. There is something very special about deep-rooted relationships; those BFFs who have known and loved you at your best and your worst, through bad breakups and even worse wardrobe choices.

But recognizing when you've outgrown certain individuals you have nothing in common with anymore can help you create some room in your brain and in your life for a few new friends.

Don't make it The Motto

Drake might rap about having a No New Friends policy, but we do ourselves and the people around us a disservice by holding on to old friendships at the expense of making new ones.

ZOOM

Manufacturing tradition

A team dressed as characters from The Wizard of Oz roll wooden 'cheese' during the Stilton Village Festival cheese-rolling competition on May 6 in Stilton, England. Local people are currently involved in a campaign to bring Stilton cheesemaking back to the village. The cheese is currently made in the counties of Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and Derbyshire. PETER MACDIARMID/GETTY IMAGES

How this cheesy village rolls

An annual tradition invented about 50 years ago to revitalize local businesses attracted about 2,000 people to the Cambridgeshire village of Stilton in the U.K. this year.

The cheese-rolling competition takes place every May Day Bank Holiday Monday in Stilton — the village which gave the cheese its name. Teams roll wooden blocks resembling cheese through the streets. BBC.COM

'Ancient tradition' cooked up by locals

Cheese rolling was invented by two pub landlords who told villagers it was "an ancient tradition" in order to encourage them and others to take part.

Blocks of wood have to be used, because an actual block of cheese would not survive being rolled along the main road. The "cheese" is a block cut from an old telegraph pole and painted to look like the blue-veined cheese.

BBC.COM

Road takes its toll

- The event was originally dreamt up to encourage visitors after the village was bypassed by the A1 in 1959.
- The village, on the old Great North Road between Huntingdon and Peterborough, got rid of its traffic jams when the bypass was built, but the High Street and North Street lost passing trade as a result.

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MetroTube

Call your local councillor

ANDREW FIFIELD
metronews.ca

As part of Bristol, England's Make Sunday Special campaign, streets are set up for pedestrian-friendly activities like dancing, yoga classes, concerts and art crawls.

All laudable. But even with the schedule reaching into fall, it'll be hard to top artist Luke Jerram's Park And Slide: a 300-foot, slip-and-slide soap show that drew more than 96,000 people to a lottery deciding who would be among the lucky 360 to belly their way down Park Street. As for us in Canada, there's plenty of summer left for letter campaigns to city halls.

SCREENGRAB

(Via Cinematic Media on Vimeo)

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See that symbol? It means you can scan the photograph below with your Metro News app to watch the trailer for Showgirls. Was it really so bad after all?

DVD review

Veronica Mars

Director. Rob Thomas

Stars. Kristen Bell, Jason Dohring, Enrico Colantoni

The big-screen version of the cult TV series about a teen detective (Kristen Bell) is a homecoming designed to check off all the boxes for the many who wrote the Kickstarter cheques to make it happen.

Newcomers may find themselves mystified by the show's appeal. The movie looks and unfolds more like a pilot for the cancelled fourth Veronica Mars TV season, rather than a re-building of the franchise.

Reprising her title role as the teen sleuth in shady beach burgh Neptune, Calif., Bell brings us briskly up to date, highlighting past events that included her volatile romance with town stud Logan (Jason Dohring).

Ardent fans don't need the back story, to which series creator and writer Rob Thomas remains all too faithful as he makes his feature directing debut.

Veronica has supposedly moved on from Neptune (she's now an honours law grad with a job in New York), but the movie is like pressing "play" on a PVR, for a story laden with shout-outs but short on substance.

Extras include deleted scenes and making-of featurettes. **PETER HOWELL**

Showgirls: The good, the bad and the ugly

Panned but not forgotten. Film critic Adam Nayman explores the cult success of Showgirls

MATT PRIGGE
Metro World News

Since its release, Showgirls has gained a sizeable cult following. CONTRIBUTED

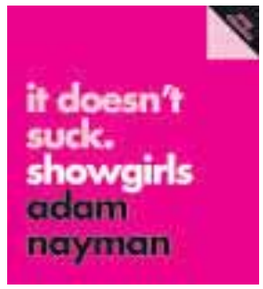
When it came out, Showgirls was a punching bag. It still is — it's just that now people actually enjoy hating it. It's become a bad cinema classic. But a wave of supporters, including J. Hoberman, Jim Jarmusch and Jacques Rivette, argue that it's a self-aware satire along the lines of director Paul Verhoeven's other work, including RoboCop and Starship Troopers. To this posse, add the critic, scholar and Metro writer Adam Nayman, whose book It Doesn't Suck: Showgirls makes a convincing and enjoyable case for its sneaky and subversive craft.

Did you always feel this way about Showgirls?
I saw it in theatres when it came out. I had to sneak in. The reason I wanted to see it at 14 was I wanted to see why it got zero stars from The Globe and Mail. I was interested in why people thought it was so bad. That probably had something to do with how I watched it the first time: Instead of being skeptical of the movie, I was skeptical of the negativity. Even though I liked it as a teenager, because I thought it was funny and outrageous, it wasn't until I got a little older and a little more well-versed with Verhoeven that I thought it could support a book.

Quoted

"One of the things I'm trying to get across in this is not that Showgirls is a great movie, but to explore what can account in 20 years for that kind of turn." Adam Nayman, author of It Doesn't Suck: Showgirls

The path of this movie from punchline to video hit is rather extraordinary.
One of the things I'm trying to get across in this is not that Showgirls is a great movie, but to explore what can account in 20 years for that kind of turn. You couldn't find a film critic in 1995 who would give this movie the time of day. And now whether it's for ironic reasons or if people are recognizing the artistry in it, you'd be hard-pressed to find someone who doesn't like it.



Where do you stand?
I wish I'd read more things about Showgirls that said what I think about it, which is that it's well-crafted and some of that craft is persuasive, and then it clashes with how craven some of the dialogue and some of the characters are. To me that would be a more valid critical observation. Instead, you just read review after review of people saying how inept it is and comparing it craft-wise and style-wise to Valley of the Dolls. That's when you realize these people weren't really trying. Or if they were trying, they're just not very good at their jobs.

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

How many celeb doppelgängers does blonde Levine have?

When Pretty McPretty boy Adam Levine tweeted out this photo of his new hairstyle (along with his pillow-lipped fiancée, Behati Prinsloo) on Saturday, everyone got pretty mad that he would go ahead and ruin that pretty face of his. So mad that "Adam Levine" started trending. However, the Maroon 5 singer took it all in stride. "I hope people understand that when they say my hair looks creepy, I take that as the highest compliment," he wrote about the hairy backlash.

However, Levine must know that he now looks like a certain ... someone. Maybe even a few someones? We compiled the women — and man — he now resembles. Anyone we're missing? Write to scene@metronews.ca to let us know.

TWITTER

Ryan Gosling

Pink

Tilda Swinton

X-Men director accused of sexually assaulting a second teen boy

A second man has come forward accusing X-Men: Days of Future Past director Bryan Singer of sexual assault.

The British man, referred to as John Doe #117, is represented by Jeff Herman, the same lawyer as the first accuser, Michael Egan. Doe claims he was introduced to Singer at the U.K. premiere party for Superman Returns when he was 17 years old. His complaint claims that Singer offered him drugs, and later grabbed him in a sexual manner and asked him to perform sex acts, according to The Daily Beast. After he refused, he says, a "large, muscle-bound man" hit him.

Singer's lawyer, Marty Singer, maintained that the accusations are false.

"After the substance of Mr. Herman's previous defamatory and fabricated filing in Hawaii was disproved based on unassailable evidence, Mr. Herman's desperation has led him to fabricate these new anonymous accusations against Mr. Singer, which we will also prove to be completely false," Marty Singer told The Daily Beast.

The allegations are similar to those made by the first accuser. Egan, who was 17 at the time of the alleged assaults in 1998, was then an aspiring model and actor. He claims he met the director through a Hollywood sex ring run by Marc Collins-Rector, a producer and convicted sex offender. He says that Collins-Rector put him on the payroll and required him to have sex with adults.

Bryan Singer ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Kim Kardashian and Kanye West

Kute kouple Kimye get wedding licence

Kanye West and Kim Kardashian are well on their way to wedded bliss. They have the multi-million dollar home, they have the baby and now they have the papers.

Life & Style is reporting the power duo are officially married on paper, after a source told the magazine they got their licence in California. Although they could just be teasing us, since they've got 90 days to get hitched in the county in which they received their marriage licence.

In any case, the spectacle isn't off: Sources say plans are still on for their huge Paris wedding this month. But the ceremony, sources further reveal, will be a private one.

Katie Couric

Katie Couric may return to the anchor chair at Today — but just temporarily

Eight years since she took her leave from Today, it looks like Katie Couric might be coming back to the NBC morning program — but only for a bit.

The NY Post and TMZ.com report that Couric is in talks to fill in for co-anchor Savannah Guthrie while she is on maternity leave in four months.

Although it's only in the talking stages and it's unclear how this will work out with Couric's other gigs — she is with ABC until mid-summer and famously signed on to be the first-ever global anchor at Yahoo sometime soon — it would be nice to see Katie back in the anchor seat, if just for a bit.

If she's not available, I wonder if they would call Ann Curry? Ha ha ha ha. Just kidding — they would never, ever call Ann Curry.

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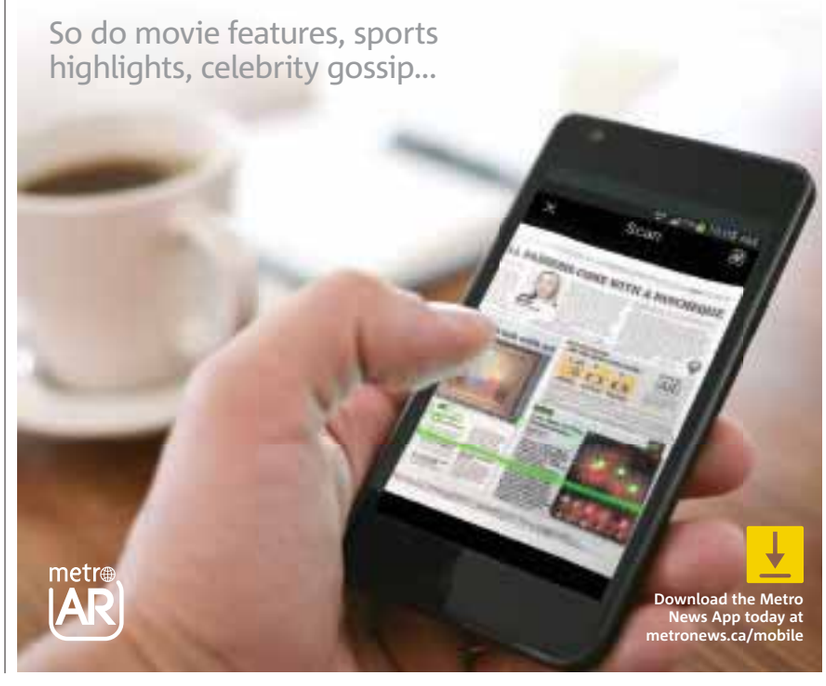

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LIFE 3

Gettin' swishy with it

Oil pulling. Does this Ayurvedic detox technique actually work, or is it just a load of hogwash?

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
Metro World News in London

Coconut is renowned for its antibacterial properties, so coconut oil is a popular choice for oil pulling. ISTOCK

Oil pulling — an ancient Ayurvedic ritual whereby unrefined oil is swished in the mouth for 10 to 20 minutes a day — is thought to improve oral health and reduce toxic inflammation in the body. Two experts talk us through the mechanics and potential benefits of this holistic, and pretty harmless, technique.

It's a detox trick that's not expensive or difficult

According to L.A.-based neurologist and Ayurveda expert Dr. Kulreet Chaudhary, this is all you need to do: Wake up and either brush or floss your teeth. Now take one tablespoon of vegetable oil (or simply half fill the mouth) and slowly start to swirl it around, pulling it through your teeth. The idea is that you're not gargling it, but actively swishing it in your mouth. Do this for 10 to 20 minutes and then spit out the oil (do not swallow it as it now contains toxins), and brush your teeth again.

"The theory behind this practice is that saliva is one of the conduits for toxins throughout your body. This is because the salivary glands are able to pull toxins out of the bloodstream and store them there at a higher concentration," she tells Metro.

"What oil pulling does is it increases the secretion of saliva and extrapolates some of the toxins that have been sucked into the glands by trapping them inside the oil."

Cure-all for almost everything

According to Chaudhary, oil pulling is one of the cheapest, and fastest, ways of getting rid of a mild dental disease.

"When done daily, oil pulling can help cure conditions such as tartar build-up, bad breath and gingivitis within weeks," says Chaudhary. But she says it goes way beyond oral hygiene.

"The mouth is kind of a measuring stick in terms of inflammation for the rest of the body.

"If I have a patient suffering from heavy metal poisoning, migraines or rheumatoid arthritis, this is one the tools I use to help detox their entire body," she adds.

The best oil of them all?

"In Ayurvedic medicine, sesame oil is believed to be a complete oil: one that suits all body types and constitutions. It also contains high amounts of vitamin C, which can help heal wounds and strengthen the immune system," says Dr. Deepa Apté, an Ayurvedic practitioner.

He says sesame oil's ability to permeate the cell membranes make it ideal for oil pulling. That said, make sure you're not using an oil you're allergic to; sunflower or coconut work just as well.

"Coconut is renowned for its antibacterial properties and is a good option for people suffering from inflammation in the body — the root cause of most diseases and internal imbalances," says Chaudhary.

Your face is getting action

The contracting-relaxing motion engages your facial muscles in a mini-workout. "When done regularly, oil pulling helps increase blood circulation to the face and reduces the appearance of fine lines and dark circles," says Apté.

Natural — not miracle — cure

"There's this misconception. People are like, 'I'm still going to eat my doughnut, drink my Coke and stay up all night — but I'll do oil pulling.' It's something we do to balance the body, but it doesn't erase a bad habit," warns Chaudhary. "It gets a little misleading to say it will cure your acne or fix your teeth because it's never given in isolation; it's part of a toolbox for controlling a condition."

For your phone

My Incredible Body (iPad, iPhone; $2.99)

MIND THE APP
Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel
life@metronews.ca

This 3D atlas of the human body offers narrated fly-throughs and interactive activities that demonstrate how major body functions and senses work. An excellent resource for parents and curious kids.

Half-Off

Now that spring has sprung, Elisha has recommitted to her Half-Off goal and put more exercise at the top of the list. With intentions to ride her bike to work every day, would a fluke spring snowstorm finally be the event that derailed her? Visit metronews.ca/voices/halfoff to find out.

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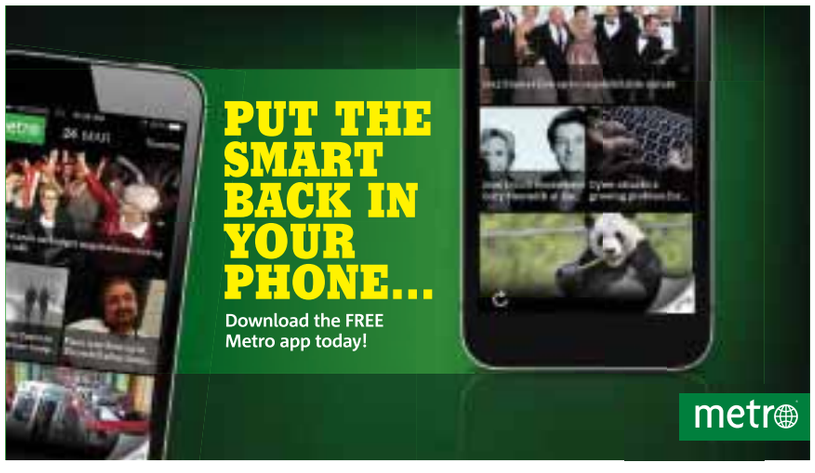

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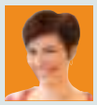
Want to substitute a local beer? Theresa Albert learns more about microbreweries

New handheld kid on the block

Health Solutions

Spoons and forks are sooo last season



NUTRI-BITES
Theresa Albert
DHN, RNCP
myfriendinfood.com

This season it is all about handheld food.

The days of the dog being the only thing eaten on city streets and at cookouts is over.

More gourmet foods are hitting the pavement and one of the best examples of that can be found at Kanga, Toronto's first Aussie meat pie shop.

Intended to be enjoyed Down Under style with all the ease and swagger of an Australian treat, Aussies get cheeky with nontraditional fillings like butter chicken and pulled pork.

Co-owners Megan Chan and Erynn Maynes say, "Aussie meat pies are saucier than your average pie, topped with flakey puff pastry, and are intended to be eaten with one hand only. The other is strictly reserved for the beverage of your choice!"

Go handheld with these other ideas this summer:

- Sushi hand rolls
- Tacos are still all the rage
- Pulled pork in lettuce wraps
- Jumbo samosas
- Empanadas
- Tamales

Remember that the sides and dressings can make or break your calorie count. Mustard and hot sauce, yes! Mayo and anything deep fried, no.

And always, always fill up with a salad.

THERESA ALBERT IS A FOOD COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST AND PRIVATE NUTRITIONIST IN TORONTO. SHE IS @THERESAALBERT ON TWITTER AND FOUND DAILY AT MYFRIENDINFOOD.COM

Aussie Meat Pie.

These savoury filled pastries are perfect for those days when you don't have time to slow down

This recipe makes two pies. THERESA ALBERT

1. Preheat your electric pie maker, grilled cheese maker or waffle maker.

2. On medium heat, fry the onion in the oil and butter till soft. Add the garlic and thyme.

3. Sprinkle the flour in the pan and fry until a light golden colour (about 1 minute).

4. Pour in the beer and incorporate with the flour, and the mixture will thicken. Allow the beer to reduce for 3-4 minutes.

5. In a separate frying pan, fry ground beef and drain off fat. Add in tomato paste.

6. Add the cooked ground beef mixture and beef stock into the pan with beer and onions.

7. Season with salt and pepper to taste and set aside,

8. Line pie maker, grilled cheese maker or waffle maker with pastry, spoon in filling (usually about 1/3 of a cup). Allow to cook according to appliance instructions, usually about 8 minutes.

9. Enjoy with ketchup — or "tomato sauce" as the Aussies call it! Cheers, mate! **COURTESY ERYNN MAYNES, CO-OWNER KANGA**

Ingredients

- 1/2 medium onion
- 1 tbsp butter + 1 tbsp oil
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/2 tsp dried thyme leaves
- 1 tbsp flour
- 3/4 cup dark beer
- 1 lb lean ground beef
- 2 tbsp tomato paste
- 1 cup beef stock
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Ketchup to taste
- Two sheets of butter puff pastry (1 pkg)

FLASH FOOD

From your fridge to your table in 30 minutes or less

Chicken Taco route to Peru

This recipe serves six and takes 30 minutes to make. PRESIDENT'S CHOICE

Ingredients

- 2 tbsp (25 ml) olive oil
- 2 small onions, minced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) ground coriander
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) cumin
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) paprika
- 1 tsp (5 ml) salt
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) freshly ground black pepper
- 2 pkg (about 775 g total) boneless skinless chicken thighs, cut in thin strips
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) chopped fresh coriander
- 1 pkg (156 g) PC Taco Shells
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) medium heat salsa
- 1 cup (250 ml) roughly chopped iceberg lettuce
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) PC Tex Mex Shredded Cheese Blend

The combination of spices gives these tacos a Peruvian spin.

1. Preheat oven to 350 F (180 C). In frying pan, heat 1 tbsp (15 ml) of oil over medium-high heat; cook onion, garlic, coriander, cumin, paprika, salt and pepper 6 minutes or until tender. Push onions to side of pan. Add remaining 1 tbsp (15 ml) oil and chicken; cook for 10 minutes, stirring often, or until cooked through. Remove from heat. Stir in chopped coriander.

2. Remove taco shells from packaging. Arrange shells open side down in a single layer on a baking sheet. Bake 7 minutes or until crisp and light golden brown. Remove from oven.

3. Divide chicken mixture evenly among the taco shells. Top each taco with salsa, lettuce and cheese and arrange on platter. **PRESIDENT'S CHOICE**

Under the provisions of *The Alcohol and Gaming Regulations Act, 1997,* Notice is hereby given that Victoria's Tavern Inc. has applied to the Liquor and Gaming Authority for a Restaurant with Tavern endorsement Permit to sell alcohol in the premises known as Victoria's Tavern at 1965 Hamilton Street Regina, SK of which the following is a correct legal description:

Lot: 45 to 48
Block: 346
Plan No.: 101177513 Ext 1
1965 Hamilton Street
City of Regina, SK

Written objections to the granting of the permit may be filed with SLGA not more than two weeks from the date of publication of this notice.

Every person filing a written objection with SLGA shall state their name, address and telephone number in printed form, as well as the grounds for the objection(s). Petitions must name a contact person, state grounds and be legible. Each signatory to the petition and the contact person must provide an address and telephone number. Frivolous, vexatious or competition-based objections within the beverage alcohol industry may not be considered, and may be rejected by the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Licensing Commission, who may refuse to hold a hearing.

Write to:
Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority
Box 5054
Regina, SK S4P 3M3

Canadian rugby reaches new heights

Rugby. History was made on weekend when Canucks reached final of a Sevens World Series competition

Harry Jones of Canada breaks free of the New Zealand defence to score during the IRB Glasgow Sevens in Glasgow, Scotland. Scan this image with your Metro News app to see more from Sunday's action.

MARK RUNNACLES/GETTY IMAGES

The Canadian seven rugby side flew out of Glasgow on Monday having made history there by reaching the final at an HSBC Sevens World Series stop for the first time.

Next time the Canadian men are in Scotland, Commonwealth Games medals will be on the line.

It was a banner weekend for the Canadians at the Glasgow Sevens. They won their preliminary pool Saturday, defeating Japan and France and tying England. Canada then defeated Kenya 14-5 in the quarter-final and Scotland 10-7 in the semi-final before going down 54-7 at the hands of powerful New Zealand in the final.

The lopsided loss made for a strange "bit of an empty feeling" Sunday that was undeserved, said head coach Geraint John.

"We shouldn't have had that, really," he said Monday before heading to London. "Because to get to the final in the (World) Series for the very first time, it's a pretty outstanding achievement by everyone.

"I think today everybody's feeling a little bit better."

Canada will be up in Scotland soon enough, facing familiar foes at the Commonwealth Games, which run July 23 to Aug. 3. It has been put in Pool A with defending champion New Zealand, Scotland and Nigeria.

Pool B consists of South Africa, Kenya, Cook Islands, and Trinidad and Tobago. Pool C features Samoa, Wales, Papua New Guinea and Malaysia. Pool D is made up of England, Australia, Sri Lanka and Uganda.

The top two from each group advance.

The competition will take place before a sellout crowd at Ibrox Stadium, home to Glasgow Rangers soccer club.

John said Sunday's final was an emotional experience, hearing the Canadian anthem before the game for the first time.

Canadians Phil Mack and John Moonlight were both named to the Glasgow tournament's all-star or Dream Team. Conor Trainor, meanwhile, turned heads with a circus-like try against France when he got his boot to a low pass in mid-flight and managed to tap it into his hands before sprinting over the line. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rugby powerhouse

New Zealand has never lost at the Commonwealth Games, winning gold every time. The All Blacks are also defending World Series champions and have won four of eight stops on the circuit this season while finishing runner-up twice.

UFC

Rousey rips TUF

A recent impromptu brawl between rival coaches Chael Sonnen and Wanderlei Silva on the TV set of The Ultimate Fighter: Brazil had MMA fans rushing to find the video.

Ronda Rousey

GETTY IMAGES

Not UFC women's bantamweight champion Ronda Rousey, who was a coach on Season 18. "They don't know the first thing about fighting," she said.

"They treated us like we were Real Housewives of Atlanta and not elite athletes that should be respected."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

LBJ supports Durant being named MVP

LeBron James of the Miami Heat says Oklahoma City's Kevin Durant would be a deserving winner of the NBA MVP award.

LeBron James

GETTY IMAGES

It's expected that Durant will be announced as this season's MVP later this week. James has lauded Durant's play this season several times in recent weeks, doing so again on Monday.

James says: "Much respect to him and he deserves it. He had a big-time MVP season."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lowry leaning towards Raptors return

Kyle Lowry leaves the Raptors locker-room on Monday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The morning after the Toronto Raptors' season ended and two months before he becomes a free agent, Kyle Lowry wasn't keen to talk about his future.

But the Raptors point guard certainly sounds like he's not going anywhere.

"I love this place. I love this situation. It's as simple as that," Lowry said Monday.

The Raptors met with reporters the day after their 104-103 Game 7 loss to the Brooklyn Nets that ended their first playoff run in six seasons, and if there was a recurring theme, it was a sense of satisfaction from a season that turned out far better than most envisioned, and a desire to stick together.

Coach Dwane Casey is in the final year of his contract — although The Associated Press had an anonymous source confirm that the coach signed a three-year deal with the team late Monday. Kyle Lowry becomes a free agent July 1.

Lowry said he hasn't spoken to his agent yet. His mind was still on Sunday's loss, particularly the game's final play that saw his shot blocked. But he said "of course" he can see himself in a Raptors jersey next season.

"We just went to Game 7, first round. Nobody expected us to be there. Of course I can see that," said Lowry, who went on to praise his teammates. "It's a great mixture, actually. I said it yesterday: It's the best 14 other guys I've had in a locker-room in my career." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Changing of the point guard

After earning a reputation for being moody and difficult last season, Kyle Lowry returned this past fall with a different demeanour, and went on to have a solid season, averaging 17.9 points and 7.4 assists.

- He then shone in the playoffs, scoring a career high of 36 points in Game 5.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You will get what you desire today but you will have to pay a price for it. The planets will reward you for your hard work but they will also ask you to sacrifice something you may not want to give up.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
The Sun's link to Jupiter will give your confidence a much-needed boost today but you may still have to learn that in order to get some you also have to give some.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You will be in one of your more impulsive moods today. Try not to spend money on things you don't need unless you know you can afford it — and unless you have won the lottery you know full well you cannot.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
You will be called upon to help someone in need and no matter how busy you might be with your own tasks and chores you must come to their aid.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
The planets warn that you may have deviated from your blueprint by a small amount, so maybe you should stand back from what you are working on and make sure it is still going according to plan.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
It's time to get working on something of a creative nature that you have been thinking about for quite some time. It will take a great deal of effort, both physical and mental, but it will be a success.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Don't try to force others to do your bidding today because they will make such an emotional scene that even you will be embarrassed.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Someone you encounter on your travels will turn out to be a very important contact, both personally and professionally. Make an effort to get out and about and meet people.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
If others won't give you what you deserve then you will just have to take it for yourself. You have worked long and hard to reach your current position and have no intention of letting others take the glory.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You may be eager for success but don't forget the many responsibilities that go with it. Remember, once you have committed to something, once you have signed on the line.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Something is holding you back, something is stopping you from reaching your true potential. According to the planets it could be your own self-doubt that is preventing you from pushing ahead.

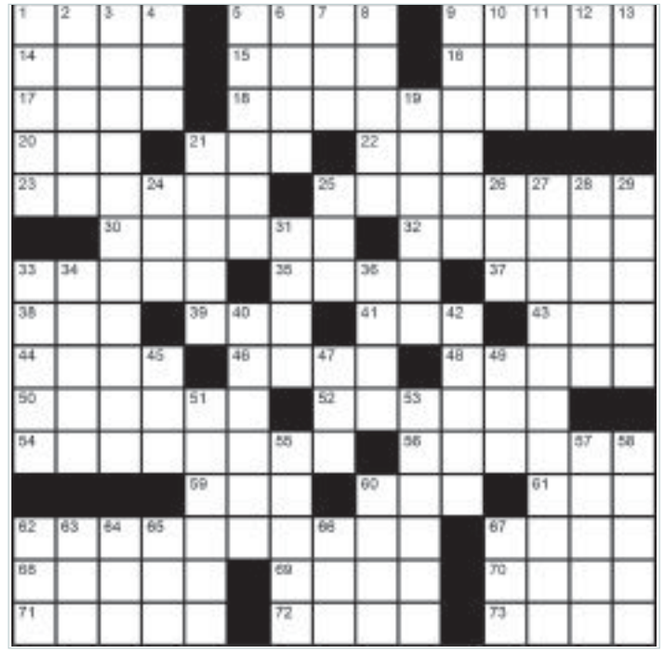
♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Keep your long-term goals at the forefront of your mind and don't let anyone put you off your quest. So-called friends will come up with all sorts of reasons why you should think again. Be true to your instincts.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

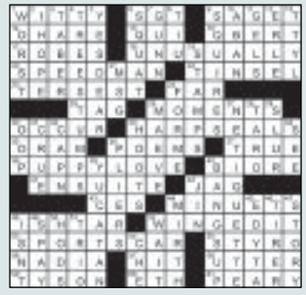
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Sort
5. Dither
9. Frigid
14. Currency exchange fee
15. Jumble
16. France: Winery river valley
17. Canvas sneakers brand
18. Annual overseas song contest currently underway in Copenhagen
20. "__ be better if..."
21. Gallery piece
22. Movie genre, __-com
23. Sedately
25. Southern Ontario city; or, ABBA song which was the #18-Across winner in 1974
30. Toronto-born jazz singer, __-Claire Barlow
32. The Band's "_ __ Be Released"
33. Hurt
35. Mr. Griffin
37. 'Chant' suffix
38. Mailing encl.
39. Champion
41. Moray __
43. Finished with work [abbr.]
44. British streetcar
46. 'Problem' suffix
48. Kimberly Stewart's mom
50. Country singer Jason
52. Impaler's weapons
54. Toronto Blues Jays sport
56. Degrees
59. Poet's 'not closed'
60. Mr. Craven
61. Bottle's 'lid'
62. Biosphere Reserve region of Quebec
67. Volcanic shape
68. Beach item
69. Against
70. Russian river
71. Ms. Blair
72. Egg masses
73. Alter

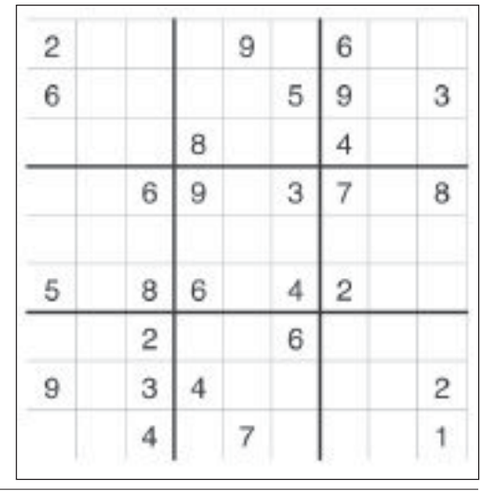
Down
1. Joe __ (Colorado Avalanche executive born in Burnaby, BC)
2. Songbook standard: "_ __ _ Kick Out of You"
3. Spring's curly-topped shoots
4. Froms opposites
5. Ms. Crow
6. Seagoing, shortly
7. Galilee's locale [abbr.]
8. Ms. Birch
9. Juno-winning musician aka Claire Boucher
10. Uncertain utterances
11. Law: French
12. Ancient veil-giver
13. Study
19. Certain candle
21. Actress Ms. Valli
24. French 'Mrs.'
25. Diminutive
26. Scoreboard letters over '0 0 0' at the start of a game of #54-Across
27. War of 1812 heroine, b.1775 - d.1868: 2 wds.
28. Clark Kent's co-worker Jimmy
29. "Get Here" by __ Adams
31. "How _ __ Your Mother"
33. Take _ __ at (Attempt)
34. "Cheers" barmaid
36. Prefix with 'angle'
40. Toasty tray tidbit
42. The Great __
45. Michie __, Canadian rapper
47. PEI part [abbr.]
49. After-Exodus bk.
51. Ancient cloak
53. Tony-winning Canadian actress Ms. Smith (b.1921 - d.1993)
55. Mr. Burton
57. Hawaiian island
58. Wheat type
60. __-Out (Bic product)
62. Li'l dollar parts
63. Gardener's tool
64. Hole-punching tool
65. Ad __ (Relevant)
66. "Thou, too, sail __, _ Ship of State!" - Longfellow
67. Pool stick

Yesterday's Crossword

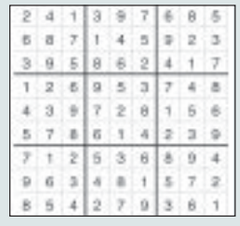


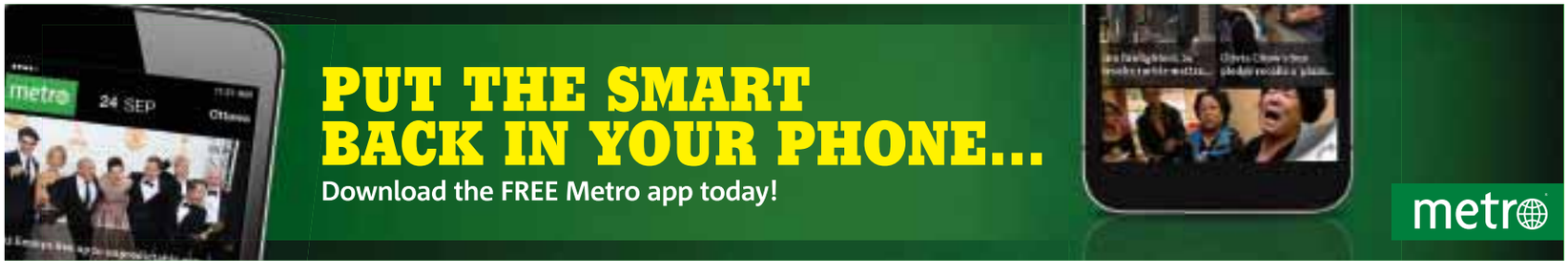
Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



Yesterday's Sudoku





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